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Executive Registry

12/19/79

Adm - 13.1 MFR

14 September 1971

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
SUBJECT: Corona Article for Studies in Intelligence

1. As you know the DCI wanted a Corona history prepared for "Studies."

2. Corona was written by [ ] After discussions with me on how coordination for publication might be achieved without the problems associated with the previous Oxcart story, I agreed to usher Corona through the necessary maze. In his opinion this meant our concurrence, review by D/Security and finally decision by DCI on whether the subject could be removed from [ ]

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3. There are no real problems preventing our concurrence.

4. The D/Security review opposes publication at Secret level, refers to NSAM 156 ("The U.S. should not at this time publicly disclose the status, extent, effectiveness or operational characteristics of its reconnaissance program"), notes this policy is a question under study by Comirex and suggests awaiting those results. In addition he suggests we "might wish to bring this proposal (to publish) to the attention of the D/NRO."

5. I have checked with Comirex [ ] on the status of their study. It is dormant pending a change in the atmosphere created by Ellsberg et al.

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6. I see no way to proceed. [ ] the "Studies" editor had asked if we could have it ready for editorial perusal, but after checking I told him it would have to skip at least one issue.) You could ask the DCI to reaffirm his previously stated wishes, but I suspect they are overtaken by his attitude on the Comirex study. I am, therefore, sitting on document pending further developments.

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NRO review(s) completed.

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